

HOUSE No. 4617

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

INITIATIVE PETITION OF RAYMOND L. FLYNN, SR. AND OTHERS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.
BOSTON, JANUARY 6, 2006.

Steven T. James
Clerk of the House of Representatives
State House
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Sir: — I herewith transmit to you, in accordance with the requirements of Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution, an Initiative Petition for a Constitutional Amendment to Define Marriage, signed by ten qualified voters and filed with this department on or before December 7, 2005, together with additional signatures of qualified voters in the number of 123,356, being a sufficient number to comply with the Provisions of said Article.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

AN INITIATIVE PETITION.

Pursuant to Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, as amended, the undersigned qualified voters of the Commonwealth, ten in number at least, hereby petition for an initiative amendment to the Constitution, as follows:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Six.

PROPOSAL FOR AN INITIATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION TO
DEFINE MARRIAGE.

1 Not less than one-fourth of all the members elected to the
2 Senate and House of Representatives, in joint session, hereby
3 declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution by the adoption
4 of the following Article of Amendment, to the end that it may
5 become a part of the Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint
6 session of the next General Court and approved by the people at
7 the state election next following]:

8 **ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.**

9 When recognizing marriages entered into after the adoption of
10 this amendment by the people, the Commonwealth and its
11 political subdivisions shall define marriage only as the union of
12 one man and one woman.

FIRST TEN SIGNERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>
Raymond L. Flynn, Sr.	1 Flint Place	Boston
Joseph R. Nolan	242 Common Street	Belmont
Philip Travis	28 County Street	Rehoboth
Philip D. Moran	415 Lafayette Street	Salem
Richard F. Guerriero	8 Kipling Road	Weymouth
Jossie E. Owens	145 Winter Street	Mansfield
Roberto Miranda	143 Albion Street	Somerville
Richard W. Richardson	77 Eighth Street	Tewksbury
Bronwyn E. Loring	567 Hale Street	Beverly
C. Joseph Doyle	175 School Street	Boston

CERTIFICATE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

September 7, 2005.

Honorable William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
One Ashburton Place, Room 1705
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

RE: Initiative Petition No. 05-02: Initiative Petition for a
Constitutional Amendment to Define Marriage

Dear Secretary Galvin:

In accordance with the provisions of Article 48 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, I have reviewed the above-referenced initiative petition, which was submitted to me on or before the first Wednesday of August of this year.

I hereby certify that this measure is in proper form for submission to the people; that the measure is not, either affirmatively or negatively, substantially the same as any measure which has been qualified for submission or submitted to the people at either of the two preceding biennial state elections; and that it contains only subjects that are related or are mutually dependent and which are not excluded from the initiative process pursuant to Article 48, the Initiative, Part 2, Section 2.

In accordance with Article 48, I enclose a fair, concise summary of the measure.

Sincerely,

THOMAS F. REILLY,
Attorney General.

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVE PETITION.

This proposed constitutional amendment would require the state and local and county governments to license and recognize only those marriages that are between a man and a woman. It would prohibit future same-sex marriages, but would allow continued recognition of those entered into before the adoption of the proposed amendment.